

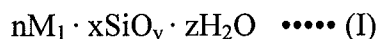
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch comprising a step of mixing a rubber solution with a slurry solution of a filler previously dispersed into a liquid, characterized in that a static mixer or a high shear mixer comprising a rotor and a stator portion is used in the mixing of the rubber solution and the slurry solution.

2. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 1, wherein the filler is at least one selected from the group consisting of carbon black, silica and an inorganic filler represented by the following formula (I):



wherein M1 is at least one selected from the group consisting of a metal of aluminum, magnesium, titanium, calcium or zirconium, oxides and hydroxides of these metals, their hydrates, and carbonates of these metals, n is an integer of 1-5, x is an integer of 0-10, y is an integer of 2-5, and z is an integer of 0-10.

3. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 1, wherein the rubber solution is a water-based rubber latex.

4. (original): A method for producing a rubber mater batch according to claim 3, wherein the rubber latex is a natural rubber latex.

5. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 4, wherein an amide bond in the natural rubber latex is decomposed with a protease.

6. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 3, wherein the water-based rubber latex is mixed with the slurry solution, and the resulting mixture is coagulated to have a water content of 5-40 mass%, and the coagulated mass is dried while applying a mechanical shearing force.

7. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 6, wherein the drying is performed by a screw-type continuous milling machine.

8. (original): A rubber master batch produced by the method as claimed in any one of claims 1-7.

9. (original): A rubber composition comprising a rubber master batch as claimed in claim 8.

10. (currently amended): A tire ~~using~~comprising a rubber composition as claimed in claim 9.

11. (currently amended): A belt ~~using~~comprising a rubber composition as claimed in claim 9.